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February 26, 2003

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Pages (including this page): 8

Our Ref.: 10925-003-999

Recipient:	Company:	Fax Number:
Examiner Thomas M. Lithgow	U.S. Patent & Trademark Office	(703) 305-3602

Confirmation copy will not follow.

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/889,029
Applicant: Trobounis *et al.*
Filed: July 6, 2001
Title: Device for Separating Fluids
Attorney Docket No.: 10925-003-999

Message

Please see the attached Preliminary Amendment.

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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER C.F.R. §1.8(a)(1)(B)

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By: Thomas D. Kohler

Thomas D. Kohler (Reg. No. 32,797)

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Trobounis et al.

Confirmation No.:

Serial No.: 09/889,029

Art Unit: 1724

Filed: July 6, 2001

Examiner: Lithgow, Thomas M.

For: DEVICE FOR SEPARATING
FLUIDS

Attorney Docket No: 10925-003-999

FEE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The fee required to be filed with the accompanying amendment of even date herewith concerning the above-identified application has been estimated to be \$54.00.

The claim amendment fee has been estimated as shown below:

(Col. 1)0			(Col. 2)		(Col. 3)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SMALL ENTITY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY		
CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT			HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID		PRESENT EXTRA		RATE	ADDIT. FEE	OR	ADDIT. FEE
TOTAL	31	MINUS	25		6	x 9	\$	54.00	x 18	\$
INDEP.	2	MINUS	3			x 42	\$	0.00	x 84	\$
							\$	0.00		\$
<input type="checkbox"/> FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM							TOTAL	\$	54.00	OR TOTAL \$

Please charge the required fee to Pennie & Edmonds LLP Deposit Account No. 16-1150.
A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas D. Kohler

Date: February 26, 2003

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Enclosure

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application of: Trobounis *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/889,029

Group Art Unit: 1724

Filed: July 6, 2001

Examiner: Lithgow, Thomas M.

For: DEVICE FOR SEPARATING FLUIDS

Attorney Docket No.: 10925-003-999

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FC:2202 54.00 CH

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with Rule 111 of the Rules of Practice, 37 C.F.R. § 1.111,
please consider and enter the following amendment and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1 - 25 without prejudice.

Please add claims 26 - 56 as follows:

26. (New) A fluid separating apparatus for separating liquids and solids from a fibrous material containing a multicomponent fluid, said apparatus comprising:
- an upwardly sloping channel with a closed lower end and an outlet at the upper end;
 - an axially extending conveyor screw disposed in said channel;
 - a lower part of said channel forming a tilted floor segment of a filter tank with a closed end and an open end;
 - an upper part of said channel wherein the outlet projects beyond an edge of said filter tank in the closed tank end;
 - a separation material intake wherein the multicomponent fluid to be separated may be introduced, centered between the open and the closed end of said filter tank; and